



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 05711.0158

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Naoki KONDO et al.) Group Art Unit: 3677
)
Application No.: 10/686,594) Examiner: Unassigned
)
Filed: October 17, 2003)
)
For: SLIDE FASTENER)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application. Pursuant to the O.G. notice published on August 5, 2003, and because the instant application was filed after June 30, 2003, Applicants submit that the requirement to submit copies of the cited U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications is waived. Copies of the remaining listed documents, including any copending, non-published patent applications, are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form. English translations of the non-English documents are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: May 10, 2004

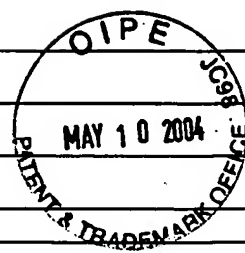
By: _____



Barry D. Biddle
Reg. No. 44,033

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	05711.0158	Appln. No.	10/686,594
Applicant	Naoki KONDO, et al.		
Filing Date	October 17, 2003	Group:	3677



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	2,601,710	07/01/1952	Moehler			
	4,752,992	06/28/1988	Kondo et al.			
	2,988,796	06/20/1961	Johns			
	2,575,502	11/20/1951	Prupis			
	2,193,827	03/19/1940	Marinsky			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
1 319 349	06/18/2003	EP			
0 454 144	10/30/1991	EP			
48-37421	11/10/1973	JP			Abstract
49-36975	10/04/1974	JP			Abstract
62-148116	09/18/1987	JP			Abstract
5-31932	08/17/1993	JP			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	European Search Report for Application No. EP 03 02 2725 dated February 16, 2004

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce